CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS BRING PROMPT ANSWERS. THE DISPATCH REACHES MASTERS AND MEN.

The Pittsburg Dispatch.

WANTS, FOR SALES, TO LETS, REACH THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE DISPATCH. HOUSE HUNTERS READ IT.

FORTY-FIFTH YEAR. PITTSBURG, MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1890. THREE CENTS.

POWER OF PATTISON.

The Chance of a Veto Likely to Have Important Influence Upon the

WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Chaotic Condition of the Fierce Contest for the Speakership of the House.

BOYER IS TO DISPLACE ANDREWS.

Ballot Reform and Reapportionment Among the Important Measures Which Will Call for Action.

CAMERON SEEMS CERTAIN OF SUCCESS.

Chauncey F. Black Will Probably Secure the Complimentary Democratic Support for the Dignity of a Toga.

ANY QUANTITY OF REFORMS TO BE ADVOCATED

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

HARRISBURG, Dec. 28.—The Legislature convenes in nine days—to be exact, at 12 o'clock, noon, one week from Tuesday. As very considerable important legislation is to be attempted during the session, some of it of a partisan character, it is interesting to note that the majority in the Assembly is not independent of the Executive, as it lacks three of a two-thirds vote in the Senate and eleven in the House.

This state of affairs will prevent any reckless legislation, and promises to insure a thoughtful and fair consideration of the propositions submitted to the Governor for his approval.

The Lively Contest for Speaker.

The result of the contest for the Republican nomination for Speaker—still in a chaotic state—is of much more importance than appears at first blush. When the Legislature and the Executive are both under partisan influences party managers are able, through the Speakership, not only to smother unfriendly legislation, however proper, but to shape that which the party machine favors.

Under the conditions which will exist during the approaching session the latter function of a subservient Speaker would be of little value, but his power to stifle reform legislation still exists. For this reason those astute members who see danger ahead of balking highly necessary legislation are watching the speakership fight jealously, and will insist that a perfectly fair-minded, firm and independent man shall be chosen. This feeling, which is growing, promises to make itself felt very effectually in the caucus which will be held one week from to-morrow night.

Growth of An Independent Spirit.

There is a strong and probably winning feeling being developed not only for a fair and untrammeled selection for Speaker, but for a fair and undictated selection of officers and employes. This growing sentiment promises to disturb some too confident candidates for places supposed to be already fixed upon.

One matter which seems to be disturbing the sleep of a good many of the members in ordinary of the Legislature relates to the personality of the coming leader. Senator Cooper, in a sort of joint arrangement with Senator Eutan and one or two others, held this place for several years. He was deposed to make room for Senator Delamater and Chairman Andrews, who ran the machine with some picturesque results for one session.

Andrews, even after his crushing experience in the last campaign, has sought to hold on to the semi-dictatorship he exercised in 1889, but he has been flatly told that he would be of much greater service if he would stay away from Harrisburg and the management of affairs will be intrusted to State Treasurer Boyer, who is popular with the old members. It is probable, however, that Boyer will divide his authority with one or two Senators, who will be selected to look after affairs in the Upper House.

Cameron Seems to Have the Call.

The first business of the session promises to be disposed of without much friction. Mr. Cameron will be chosen to succeed himself in the United States Senate, the Democrats voting, probably, for ex-Lieutenant Governor Chauncey F. Black.

A great deal of the legislation which will be attempted, with what success remains to be seen, is already foreshadowed. Some of the Republican leaders, urged on by Collector Cooper, will make an attempt to have a bill passed for the calling of a Constitutional Convention; and among other arguments with which they will seek to popularize the scheme will be that under section 4, of Article VIII., in the organic law, requiring the numbering of each ballot cast, the proposed ballot reform upon the lines of the Australian system cannot be accomplished.

Collector Cooper will meet with a strong opposition to his proposition, and the opponents of the scheme have already what they regard as sufficient reply to his ballot reform plan. The section complained of, if found to be a real obstacle, can be removed as quickly by a special amendment to the Constitution as the work of a convention could be made effective.

Secrecy Without Any Amendment.

A ballot reform bill, which will have the sanction of the Ballot Reform Association and meet all the requirements, providing for a personal registration, such as will prevent such scandalous padding of the list as was done in Philadelphia at the late election, will be presented early in the session and ample time given for its full and fair discussion. This bill contemplates a scheme which will assure perfect secrecy without any violation of the numbering clause of the State Constitution.

From the beginning of the session there will be a determined fight for a reform in the management of the State Treasurer's office and the conduct of the sinking fund. Some of the managers are engaged upon a bill which will have the appearance of reform without doing much of anything of real consequence, but this attempt at meeting the question will not be allowed to hide the real issue.

A Saving to the State.

The sinking fund is now in such a condition that its cash balance, shown by the report of December 1, 1890, to be over $2,000,000, can be reduced to a few hundred thousand, and that after the current fiscal year the annual appropriation of nearly $1,000,000 can be reduced by over $600,000, thus making a saving to the State of that amount each year, for the reduction of taxation, or for public schools, or whatever otherwise use the Legislature may see fit to put it to. Bills providing for some such reform in this direction, and for the better care of what cash the Treasurer has on hand than is now taken of the funds, and for the enforcing of the constitutional prohibition of the investment of funds in the banks of State officials, will be leading features of the session.

The question of reapportionment, Senatorial, Legislative, but especially Congressional, will become a very serious and very interesting one before the session closes. The Frank apportionment bill has already been passed by the National House of Representatives, without opposition, and will pass the Senate long before the winter is over and become a law.

The Two Big Counties Interested.

This bill gives Pennsylvania two additional members of Congress. It is possible, of course, that these two members could be elected at large, without a Congressional reapportionment, but the circumstances will compel the Republican management to make a Congressional reapportionment, unless it wishes to outrage the two great Republican counties of Philadelphia and Allegheny.

The two Congressmen gained by the Frank bill belong one to Philadelphia and one to Allegheny county. The quota in the Frank bill for each Congressman is 173,000 of population. Philadelphia's population by the census figures is 1,044,894, or 16,000 over six full ratios. This would entitle the city to six Congressmen and necessitate the fixing up of one new district.

No plan of reapportionment which would stand scrutiny would make a single Democratic district in the city, as the present Third district has not a ratio entitling it to a Congressman under the Frank apportionment.

No Room for a Democratic District.

The Republican politicians who have been considering this phase of the situation had fixed up a plan to make three districts out of the present Fourth and Fifth districts, but a careful study of the situation will show that this cannot be done without giving one or two downtown districts a Congressman with almost less than half a ratio.

Allegheny county's population under the census is 542,000, or 23,000 more than three full ratios, entitling that county to three members instead of two, as now. Thus local pressure will unite the delegations of these two cities in favor of a Congressional reapportionment, and this will make the scheme almost certain to go through.

The liquor legislation of the session, it would appear now, is likely to be confined to an amendment to the high license law regulating the sale by wholesalers. How far this will be carried is as yet a doubtful matter, but Mr. Brooks himself is likely to propose an amendment to the law providing that the minimum quantity to be sold by wholesalers shall be much larger than a quart, and that it shall not be drank on the premises.

No Show for an Excise Commission.

Another amendment which will be passed is one giving the judges the right to reject any applicant whom they deem unfit. The scheme to take the granting power from the judges and place it in the hands of the Excise Commissioners has been abandoned. Among some other important matters which will be brought up is one for the erection of a new capitol building. A bill will be presented by Representative Boyer providing for such a building, and a vigorous fight will be made to put it through. The fate of such a proposition depends largely upon circumstances not yet clearly understood by those who are most favorable to the measure.

Measures for the enforcement of sections 6 and 7 of article 17 of the State Constitution, which prohibits discrimination of rates by transportation companies, will be vigorously pushed. The present condition of the public mind upon this question, and the result of the recent elections, have warned legislators that they can no longer safely trifle with the farmers' rights, and the time is considered as propitious for the impression of the necessity for passing these bills upon the Legislature.

INDIAN TROUBLES ENDED.

BIG FOOT AND HIS BAND OF BUCKS AND SQUAWS ARE CAPTURED.

Major Whitesides, With a Battalion of the Seventh Cavalry, End the Business—Those in the Bad Lands Also Giving Up the Contest.

PINE RIDGE AGENCY, Dec. 28.—The Indian troubles are about ended, and this time there seems to be no doubt about it. The Indians who escaped from Colonel Sumner have been corralled. Major Whitesides in command of one battalion of the Seventh Cavalry captured Big Foot and his entire band near the head of Porcupine creek.

General Brooke also telegraphed that the hostiles in the Bad Lands had surrendered and would reach Pine Ridge on Tuesday. Bright Eyes sent word last night that half the hostiles had left the Bad Lands and were within a few hours march of the agency.

The band consisted of 120 men and 250 women and children. This disposes of the hostile element and it now seems certain all the Indians are coming in. The camp in the Bad Lands is now deserted. Army officers predict trouble when the hostiles are dismounted and disarmed as has been done by General Ruger. The main thing was to have the hostiles come in quietly and of their own accord. When surrounded on the agencies further steps will be easy. The final movement of the troops has undoubtedly greatly influenced Short Bull in his former determination to die rather than surrender.

A BRIDE'S MYSTERIOUS ACT.

She Compels a Man to Marry Her and Then Attempts Suicide.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

ALBIA, IA., Dec. 28.—Miss Carrie B. Weaver, a handsome young woman of this city, accompanied by her brother, went to Keokuk the other day and compelled a young man named Otto S. Cobb to marry her. He did so, and came to this city to spend the bridal season. About 9 o'clock the next morning the bride was found suspended by the neck from a rear balcony of the hotel, having attempted suicide.

Although black in the face, she was cut down and resuscitated. She will give no reason for her attempt at suicide.

FORCED TO GO BACK.

Striking Female Thread Mill Operatives Return to Work.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Nearly 1,000 of the female operatives of the Clark Thread Works in Newark and Kearney will go back to work in the cotton department of the mills to-morrow morning to convert into thread 30,000 pounds of Scotch yarn, which the company imported from its mills in Scotland with a view to defeating the aims of the spinners who struck three weeks ago, after making complaints of tyranny and oppression on the part of Superintendent Herbert E. Walmsley. The girls are not blamed for going back to work, because they have no relief fund and no organization, and public sympathy has not been manifested as substantially as was hoped.

As the matter now stands, the employes of the thread department, to the number of 1,400, will have steady work for awhile, and nearly as many more who were employed in the cotton department will be idle. The 102 spinners are provided for by their organization. The carders and others in the cotton department are without a relief fund and will hope for public aid to carry them along until they find work.

A FATHER'S AWFUL DEED.

HE MAKES AN ATTEMPT TO KILL HIS FAMILY AND PARTLY SUCCEEDS.

After Shooting and Stabbing His Wife He Shoots His Son and Daughter—Then the Frenzied Man, With Rope and Bullet, Ends His Own Life.

FERGUS FALLS, MINN., Dec. 28.—A terrible tragedy occurred last night in the house of Henry Behr, who lived 15 miles west of Fergus Falls and about the same distance from Carlisle. Behr came home at about 9 o'clock from Elizabeth, where he ran a shoe shop, and after some pleasantry about Christmas presents, drew two self-cocking revolvers and began shooting at his wife, son and daughters.

He hit his son twice in the arm and stabbed him in the back with a carving knife as he was trying to escape from the house. The light went out in the midst of the shooting and the three daughters got outside and hid themselves, one of them with a bullet wound in her shoulder. Then Behr turned on his wife and stabbed her repeatedly with the knife. Afterward he went in search of his daughters, and not finding them came back to his house. His wife had crawled away, but he followed her and stabbed her again and again.

Finally he returned to the house and hanged himself to a beam, at the same time putting a bullet into his head. The son managed to get to a neighbor's house and gave the alarm. When the neighbors arrived they found Behr dead, his wife just dying and the three daughters still hiding. Physicians were summoned from Fergus Falls and Wahpeton and dressed the wounds of the two injured ones. Henry Behr, the son, will probably die from his wounds and loss of blood.

The family has some property, but is a rough lot. The son has served a term in the State prison for horse stealing, and the girls do not bear an enviable reputation. They had numerous quarrels, and Behr went away a few weeks ago with the intention of not coming back. He was perfectly sober at the time of the murder, and nobody can tell what his object was, unless it was simply a fit of desperation. He went home with the intention of doing the deed, because he took with him from Elizabeth the rope with which he hanged himself, three revolvers and a butcher knife. No inquest will be held.

BOGUS DIVORCE TRAFFIC.

A Hebrew Society That is Engaged in a Good Work.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The efforts of the United Hebrew Charities to break up the nefarious divorce traffic carried on among the ignorant East Side Russian and Polish Hebrews, by the so-called "rabbis," yielded their first fruits to-day. Rabbi S. M. Siskind, who has undoubtedly granted more of these fraudulent divorces than anyone else in the business, was arrested on a warrant issued by Justice Hogan. The charge against Siskind was petty larceny in obtaining money under false pretences. The warrant was issued on the affidavit of Agent Arnold B. Ehrlich, of the United Hebrew Charities, who swore that Siskind had received $5 for a "divorce" which he had granted.

Mr. Ehrlich said this afternoon: "Just to illustrate how far the traffic is carried. I know that several of these rabbis have taken the groom aside after performing a marriage ceremony and whispered in the groom's ear: 'If you ever want a divorce from this woman, come to me for it.'"

SELAH CHAMBERLAIN DEAD.

A Man Who Was Largely Interested in Railroads and Canals.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 28.—Selah Chamberlain, the well-known railroad man died about midnight, Saturday, aged 78. Mr. Chamberlain was one of the wealthy and influential men of Cleveland. He had interests in various parts of the country. He organized the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company, and built most of the lines comprising its system. He also built the Lake Champlain Railroad, the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad and the Cleveland, Lorain and Wheeling Railroad, being President of the last named company at the time of his death. He also built several canals in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Indiana.

He was largely interested in the Lake Superior Iron Mines, was a director in several banks and had other financial interests. Mr. Chamberlain was the great-uncle of Jennie Chamberlain, the famous Cleveland beauty, and having no children of his own, he treated her as much like a daughter as a niece.

PERISHED FROM COLD.

A Three-Year-Old Child Wanders Ten Miles Away From Home.

NESS CITY, KAN., Dec. 28.—Friday morning the little 3-year-old daughter of Dr. P. A. Barker wandered away from the house of friends near Beeler, 18 miles west of here. The alarm was given, and, notwithstanding the fact that the prairies were covered with volunteer hunters, the child was not found until this morning.

It had perished from the cold and hunger, and had wandered a distance of ten miles. The sad death of her child is a severe blow to the mother, whose husband is serving time in the penitentiary.

ONE BLOW KILLED HIM.

Nelson Ellis' Jugular Vein Severed by a Thump in the Neck.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 28.—At Joseph Feldkamp's saloon, on Eastern avenue, last night, Nelson Ellis was making a disturbance and had been put out several times. He stood before the saloon and began to abuse George Kopter, the barkeeper.

Kopter came out and struck him a blow with his fist on the neck, severing the jugular vein. Ellis died this morning from the blow. Kopter has been arrested.

THOSE CONSUL FRAUDS.

Canadian Exporters Helped to Defraud the Government Revenue.

KINGSTON, ONT., Dec. 28.—Consul Twitchell says he has been spoken to by a Canadian exporter in regard to defrauding the United States revenue with a view to getting him to enter into the practice.

Mr. Twitchell also says he believes consular frauds have been practiced to the extent reported.

LETTER FROM O'SHEA.

The Captain Whose Wife Has Acquired Such Notoriety Writes to

DENY A CHARGE MADE BY HEALY.

An Attempt to Disprove All the Allegations of Complicity.

GOVERNMENT RAILROADS LOSE MONEY

[BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.]

LONDON, Dec. 28.—During the heat of the Kilkenny campaign, about the time Davitt's head was broken and lime thrown in Parnell's eyes, Timothy Healy made a fiery speech, in which he referred with great freedom to the episode which was the direct cause of the present trouble in the Irish camp. In plain and almost brutal language he charged that Captain O'Shea had at all times full knowledge of the intimacy of Mrs. O'Shea with Parnell, and that for that reason alone he had been selected by the whflom leader as a member of Parliament.

The same insinuation had been made before, but never in a direct and public manner. Captain O'Shea at once consulted his attorneys in regard to a suit for libel, but they did not hold out much hope of a favorable verdict. Consequently, after due deliberation, the following communication was to-night given out for publication, address to Mr. Healy. The doughty Captain says:

The Facts in the Case.

When I was a Liberal whip, I did my best to promote your (Healy's) candidature as a Liberal and supporter of Mr. Gladstone in Middle Armagh, and afterward at Liverpool in 1885. I quote from a letter from Mr. Chamberlain to me, dated December 20, 1890, in which he says:

"I assume that you will take some notice of the brutal attack on you made by Mr. Healy at Kilkenny; although, unless I am much mistaken, you will have no legal remedy. His statements are entirely inconsistent with what I know of the general election of 1885. According to my recollection, Mr. Parnell neglected at first to give you any assistance, and did not do so until he had seen letters from myself to another person pointing out that your services in the past, as an intermediary between himself and the Liberal party, had been of real advantage to both, and that such services continued equally necessary if it were desired to maintain any kind of friendly relations between the Irish Nationalists and the Liberal party. Respecting Galway, I find that I wrote you to the same effect in January, 1888, which letter I authorize you to publish if you think it useful. This correspondence ought to afford sufficient evidence that no such complicity existed as your traducer has been base enough to insinuate."

The Letter From Chamberlain.

Mr. Chamberlain's letter, which was written in January, 1888, accompanies the above, and contains the following:

In the present condition of Irish affairs it is more than ever unfortunate that you have not found a seat. Is there any chances of your standing for one of those now vacant in Ireland? Surely there must be an interest in the Irish party to keep open channels of communication with the Liberal leaders. If any possible co-operation is expected, it is clear that a great deal of preliminary talk must be had and I doubt if any Liberal leader is in direct or indirect communication with the Irish representatives. Certainly I find myself very much in the dark respecting their intentions and wishes. Cannot you get Mr. Parnell's exequatur for one of the vacant seats? It is really the least he can do for you after all you have done for him.

Captain O'Shea thinks that these two documents completely exonerate him, and will probable rest his case before the public thereon without attempting legal proceedings.

RECEIPTS FALLING OFF.

The German Government Railway System Showing Signs of Failure.

[BY DUNLAP'S CABLE COMPANY.]

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—The German railroad system continues to be a source of annoyance to its owner, the Government. The revenue, instead of increasing, is yearly becoming less and less. The receipts in November last were 2,000,000 of marks less than in the same month of the previous year, though 620 kilometers of rail have been added since then. The October receipts showed a similar decrease. The *Official Gazette* endeavors to lay the blame on the autumn inundations, but the Liberals insist that the failure is due to the narrow-minded policy of the bureaucratic management. Probably both are right to a certain extent, but there is a third reason, viz., the stagnation of trade, which has to be taken into account.

This stagnation is undeniably due to the McKinley bill, by which German commerce was injured, and the manufacturers were robbed of all ambition. Many, indeed, saw in it the death knell of their enterprise and sat down in despair to await the end. It is characteristic of the German to take a pessimistic view of things, and it will take long to convince them of its unworthiness. Perhaps the railroad report will rouse them.

A MURDERER CAUGHT.

He Evaded Justice for Three Years but is Finally Caught.

[BY DUNLAP'S CABLE COMPANY.]

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—The belief that the Nemesis which awaits the murderer may be long delayed but is nevertheless certain has received a striking corroboration within the last few days. The murderer of the watchman Braun, after evading justice for three years, has at length been arrested. The crime, which created considerable excitement at the time, by reason of its character, was committed in 1887. Braun was discovered hanging to a tree near the Elizabeth Kirche with the strap from which his keys were usually suspended.

The idea of suicide was rebutted by the fact that there were serious wounds in the head, and it was supposed that the murdered man had disturbed a thief in the act of breaking into the sacred edifice.

DIVORCE IN BERLIN.

A Showing in Favor of Society in the German Capital.

[BY DUNLAP'S CABLE COMPANY.]

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—It has been stated in the Berlin papers lately that the divorce courts are overworked, from which has been inferred a corresponding growth of immorality. The result of inquiries at the Kammer Gericht has been such as to show that Berlin society is not nearly so black as it has been painted. The register showed that in the year now coming to a close only 310 divorce suits have been instituted.

In two cases the parties are moving in high life, while in 16 others the parties had obtained leave to sue in forma pauperis, that is, at the expense of the taxpayer.

OFFERED A BARONETCY.

The Hero of the London Business World Royally Recognized.

[BY DUNLAP'S CABLE COMPANY.]

LONDON, Dec. 28.—William Kidderdale, the Governor of the Bank of England, who has been of late the hero of the business world of London, by reason of his masterly management during the late financial trouble, has been offered a baronetcy. It is not definitely known as yet whether he will accept or decline the honor which everybody acknowledges he has richly deserved.

Assurances From Balfour.

[BY DUNLAP'S CABLE COMPANY.]

DUBLIN, Dec. 28.—Secretary Balfour has received a deputation from Cork and promised that the railway shall be extended so as to relieve that district by opening communication with the markets of Dublin and England.

WILLIAM'S HOME POLICY.

The Emperor's New System May Stir Up a Fierce Storm.

[BY DUNLAP'S CABLE COMPANY.]

BERLIN, Dec. 28.—It will not be the fault of the regime inaugurated by the Emperor and his advisers, Caprivi and Miguel, if it fails to excite the ire of the party whose power in the country districts has hitherto been almost uncontrolled. The new policy is utterly opposed to the present system. The bill for the organization of rural communities is calculated to deprive the landed proprietors of some of their most cherished privileges, and the determination of the Government to carry it is shown by its threat to dissolve the Prussian Diet should the Conservatives persist in their opposition. The second question upon which the Government and the Center party are at loggerheads is the proposed reduction of the corn and cattle duties.

A not unfounded feeling prevails among agrarian Conservatives that by the commercial treaty with Austria and the reduction of the corn duties, their interests may suffer damage. From the same point of view they also oppose the new sugar bill, which is to bring about the abolition of drawbacks. Nor is the new school bill any more to their taste, though in this question it is the Center party which leads the opposition.

MAY LET UP ON PORK.

A Belief That Italy Will Allow the American Hog Free Access.

[By Associated Press.]

ROME, Dec. 28.—The Italian Government several years ago prohibited the importation of American pork and lard, and soon after extended the prohibition to all countries. It has just taken a step, however, which it is believed will result in the removal of the restriction against the United States. The Minister of the Interior has issued a decree reciting that Italy is satisfied that Germany is taking every safeguard to insure the health of its home products. A certificate from a health officer is to accompany each shipment.

Inasmuch as the inspection laws of Germany are no more rigid than those existing in the United States it is believed that Italy, whose trade relations with the United States have been rapidly growing, until now they have reached figures exceeded by only three nations, will be willing to remove the embargo upon American pork and lard, upon similar assurances from the United States of thorough inspection. It is known that the Government is highly pleased with the increasing trade with the United States, which has been less effected by the new tariff than that of the other nations.

It is believed that the matter has been taken up by Secretary Blaine, and that negotiations are pending. The agents of a number of American shippers are now in this country. They say that the removal of the restriction against the United States would prove of the greatest benefit, and that they are satisfied a large market is awaiting such action.

The National Indian Congress.

CALCUTTA—The Government of India has notified its officials to abstain from attending the sittings of the National Indian Congress and in deference to this order most of the Europeans have absented themselves. At the second sitting of the congress a petition was adopted asking the British Parliament to pass Mr. Bradlaugh's bill making a part of the Indian Council elective, after the Viceroy shall have decided upon whom the franchise shall be conferred. A resolution favoring local option in excise matters was also adopted.

The Scotland Railroad Strike.

EDINBURGH—At a public meeting held in this city to-day resolutions were passed expressing sympathy with the railway strikers. Many clergymen were present and delivered addresses. The passenger service continues to improve, and all mail trains are running regularly. There are, however, no signs of a settlement with the strikers.

Dr. Stoecker's Farwell Sermon.

BERLIN.—Dr. Stoecker, who was some time ago dismissed from the Court Chaplaincy, preached his farewell sermon in the Cathedral to-day. The Royal pew was unoccupied.

A BELLAMY COLONY

THAT LAYS CLAIM TO THE GIANT TREES OF THE SIERRAS.

The Leader is an Old Follower of Sand Lots Kearney—He Intends Working Up the Big Trees Into Lumber Unless Stopped by Soldiers.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Burnett G. Haskell, who trained in old sand lot days under Kearney, is head of the Kaweah colony, whose claims to the finest body of big trees in the Sierras have caused Secretary Noble to demand a troop of cavalry to guard them next spring. Haskell started out as a Socialist, and five years ago he and a small band of followers filed on a beautiful grove of the Sequoias river, in the eastern part of Tulare county. The Government withdrew land from the settlement soon after, and Haskell and his associates never secured a title. They went on with the colony, however, which was modeled on the co-operative colony of Topalombampo.

When Bellamy's book started the Nationalist craze, Haskell seized an idea at once, and issued circulars showing the Kaweah colony to be a burnished ideal life of "Looking Backward," and suggesting that a share in this life cost only $500, of which only $100 need be paid in cash. He struck the right card, and coin poured in from dupes all over the country, the heaviest contributions coming from New York and Denver. Haskell did nothing with this money to improve the colony, nor did he pay wages to colonists. He issued time cards, payable in the sweet bye and bye. All he did was to build a saw mill and open up a road to the nearest railway.

Success turned his head, and last November he tried to get a new Nationalist party here to sanction his colony scheme. A convention of Nationalists refused and this nearly killed Kaweah colony in California, but the dupes in the East continued to furnish sinews of war, though the mystery is where has the coin gone. Haskell has got the sawmill completed and swears he will work up the Sequoias into lumber. He will do it too, unless stopped by the soldiers.

HIS FIRST DRESS SUIT.

Andrew Carr Wore It When He was Placed in His Coffin.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The first dress suit Andrew Carr, formerly a driver, latterly a beggar, ever wore covered him tonight as he lay in a fine casket. Carr was a native of Ireland and was supposed to be very poor.

He, however, left bank books containing deposits aggregating $1,700 to the landlady who had for two years rented him a dingy room for 80 cents a week, a rent which he seldom paid. The landlady bought the dress suit and the casket. Carr was 60 years old.

WICKED WASHINGTON

A Congressman's Attack Attracts the Attention of the Pulpit.

LIQUORS SOLD IN THE CAPITOL,

Notwithstanding the Repeated Orders to the Contrary.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEK IN CONGRESS

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—There is a large lot of people in Washington who take it as a personal affront when anything is said against the morals of the town, no matter whether the charge is true or not, and they always manage to raise a row about anyone who gives vent to criticism of this character. For this reason the very earnest, solemn, prosaic, and conscientious Representative Cutcheon, of Michigan, is now in very hot water.

Last Sunday evening he made a speech at a temperance meeting in the city and inveighed severely against the social customs of Washington, as encouraging and indulging in drinking to excess more than in any other city of his knowledge. Several days elapsed before "society" discovered the enormity of General Cutcheon's offense, and then society pitched into him in knock-down-and-drag-out style.

A Protest From the Preachers.

As usual the fashionable preachers were called upon to defend their best-paying parishioners, and to a man they have declared that it's no such thing—that is all, except Dr. Sunderland, who is fearless in his expression of opinion, even to confessing he is a Socialist. Mr. Sunderland says that as far as his knowledge goes General Cutcheon tells the truth.

Most of the preachers noticed the matter in their sermons to-day, and those who did so quite unanimously declared that while there was too much society and other drinking in town, the capital is no worse than other large cities and not as bad as many others.

The temperate character of the present administration was quoted with great gusto. It is cited that at the family dinners of the White House no wine is ever used, and that intoxicants are even excluded in cooking, and nothing stronger than cider being allowed in the Christmas mince pies and plum pudding. While Vice President Morton takes his rent regularly from his "tavern," the Shoreham, much of which rent comes from the sale of liquor, it is declared that he uses only orange cider and lemonade in his family.

A Very Peculiar Style of Punch.

Postmaster General Wanamaker also uses soft drinks, and Attorney General Miller sets out a Hoosier punch made of orange, cider, vinegar, seltzer and so forth, that is said to tear one's digestion all to pieces, but a barrel of which would not intoxicate a good-sized flea. The Secretary of the Interior, being from St. Louis, tipples mildly, and Secretary Tracy and Secretary Proctor, being of the Navy and Army, are forced to some extent to follow the universal practices of soldiers and Jack Tars.

Compared with the former administration, which was really a pretty fast one socially, the present one is of the extreme prohibition stripe. Secretary Windom, genial and social as he is, is opposed to the small unnecessary vices of all kinds, and has within two or three days issued an order absolutely prohibiting smoking in the Treasury Department. Hitherto heads of bureaus, chiefs of divisions and other favored ones have smoked at their pleasure, but they are now included in the prohibition, as it was found that their example led others of lower official rank to break the rule.

Not in the Social Swim.

But this administration is a vastly smaller part of the fashionable society of Washington than most former administrations have been, on account of the President's unsocial manner and the rigid piety of the whole family, and therefore society cuts loose from the administration influence and goes it alone in the old way, which makes General Cutcheon's description of it not far wrong. One great obstacle which the defenders of Washington's political and social sobriety can't surmount is the persistent and open sale of liquor in the House and Senate restaurant at the Capitol, and that, too, without license, a privilege that cannot be safely exercised by any other liquor sellers of the city.

Formal and serious discussion of the matter in the House and Senate, outside criticism, genuine or sham orders for the cessation of the abuse, all result in talk and the sale goes on. This and the disgraceful drunkenness that is seen at one or two of the great receptions at foreign legations or at fashionable mansions each season, are the real basis for the frequent allegations similar to that of General Cutcheon.

LIGHTNER.

COMING EVENTS IN CONGRESS.

The Cloture Rule May be Taken Up in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The nature of the proceedings in the Senate this week will be determined by the attendance. If no quorum is present, there will probably be adjournment from day to day. If there is a quorum—counting the Senators on both sides of the chamber—the debate on the elections bill will continue and the feature of the discussion will be a speech by Senator Hoar, the sponsor of the bill in the Senate. Should there be a quorum of Republican Senators during the week—something hardly probable—then may be expected a transformation of the light skirmishing which has been in progress for a month into a heavy engagement of the forces, for it is the intention to take up the new cloture rule introduced by Senator Aldrich as soon as a safe Republican majority can be assured.

It is not expected that any business will be transacted in the House during the coming week. There is a possibility, however, though not a probability, of a quorum being in attendance either Friday or Saturday, and should the unexpected happen the Appropriations Committee is prepared to take advantage of the circumstance and call up one of the regular annual appropriation bills.

THE BELL COMPANY SUPREME.

Most of the Improvements on the Telephone Owned by It.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The Bell telephone patent expires in 1893, and not a few people think that after that date many telephone companies will spring up throughout the country, and that competition will make the service as cheap as any other upon which no patent is held. This is a very pleasing outlook, but it may not eventuate at the time expected, nor for a long time thereafter. The original Bell patent is for the simple principle of telephoning—a patent upon the transmission of sound waves. Starting from that point, many improvements have been made and patented. Inquiry at the Patent Office developed the fact that nearly every one of them, at least every one of real value, has been bought by the Bell Company outright, or has, by other means, come under its control.

The records of the Assignment Division of the office are sprinkled over with entries, showing that this or that patent has been assigned to the Bell Company. The best transmitter yet invented, and one regarded by many experts as nearly perfect, is the Blake. The patent upon it does not expire until 1895 and it is under the control of the Bell people. Thus it is through a long list. The Bell company has its hands upon a large number of almost invaluable patents, which do not expire for years after its original one.

LIBERTY OF DEBATE.

SENATOR EDMUNDS DEFENDS THE RIGHTS OF THE MAJORITY.

He Says the Cloture Rule is an Entirely Proper and Constitutional One—Opposed to Calling the Previous Question—A Slap at Speaker Reed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—In an interview to-day on the subject of the adoption in the Senate of the proposed new rule giving the majority the power to close debate, Senator Edmunds said:

The Constitution provides, and every Constitution of a Government that is to be carried on must so provide, that the majority of any legislative body has to do its business. It necessarily implies that no minority, whether of one or any other number, should or could unduly obstruct the expression of the will of the majority. The just ought to be continuously maintained; but liberty of debate is one thing and liberty of obstruction and preventing a legislative body coming to any resolution whatever upon the subject before it, is quite another.

The rule proposed is not a rule to compel particular determination of any question. It is a rule to provide that, after what the majority consider to be a reasonable universal debate, that majority shall be enabled to dispose of a measure one way or the other. If any man of any party can find fault with such a provision I am unable to understand. I always have been, and am still, opposed to what is called as a previous question as it has been in recent years instituted—that is, a proposition which instantly terminates discussion, if any time be given, puts the power of the members of a legislative body a right to speak at all into the hands of the managing members of a committee, or of a presiding officer. The proposed rule precludes such a possibility.

What the country, with the information that it gets from partisan newspapers of all kinds, may think in respect to the propriety of such a rule is entirely immaterial to me, in the sense of affecting my conduct in doing what I think is my duty in the promotion of the general public interest. I am sure that the country, when it understands the precise scope and force of such a rule, that it means that the representatives of the country have the power to do what the country thinks ought to be done, one way or the other, after every member of the minority shall have had the opportunity to state his views, will be more than satisfied that its representatives have done a wise and right thing.

THE WIDOW OF CUSTER.

Her Pension Will Probably be Increased to $100 a Month.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Elizabeth A. Custer, the widow of the gallant cavalry officer, has been spending a week in Washington, talking to some of her friends about the bill providing for the increase of her pension from $50 to $100 per month. This bill was introduced by Representative Chipman, of the Detroit district, and to Representative Belknap, of Grand Rapids, was assigned the task of preparing a favorable report on behalf of the Committee on Invalid Pensions. The report has been agreed to and the bill ordered to be favorably reported to the House. It will undoubtedly be passed if reached on the calendar. Captain Belknap in his report is particularly enthusiastic on the subject of Custer's services to his country and the claim which his widow has upon the liberality of the Government.

The following extracts will serve to illustrate the feelings with which the members of the committee regard Custer and his services: "History will record him as the best cavalry leader the world has ever produced. While Custer was in chief command he never made a mistake. When he met disasters it was always due to the blunders of his superior officers.

WORLD'S FAIR ENVOYS.

The President Asked to Detail Army and Navy Officers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—President Harrison has received a letter from George R. Davis, Director General of the World's Columbian Exposition, requesting the President to detail a number of officers of the army and navy for service as commissioners of the exposition to the several republics and colonies of Mexico, Central and South America.

These officers are to be the bearers of special invitations from the people of the United States to the presidents of the republics and governors of colonies, requesting that they participate in the Exposition.

A FINELY-LAID SCHEME.

It Would Have Given the Promoters a Monopoly in Sealskins.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—It leaked out to-day for the first time why the Alaska Commercial Company made so heavy a bid for the lease of Seal Islands last May, when they knew seals in Pribylor Islands were rapidly decreasing. An officer of the company declared to-day that their scheme was to protect the Seal Island rookeries for five years and not allow a single skin to be taken. The poachers would have been made short work of, as the company would have fitted out two swift steamers and sunk any craft found poaching in the vicinity of the islands. The company meantime would have taken all the skins needed from their concessions on the Russian coast. Such a position would have given them a corner on the world's supply of sealskins, and they could have charged what they pleased, as the outside supply which the poachers in the ocean could secure would be inconsiderable.

It was a fine monopoly scheme, but the large bid of the new company, in which Steve Elkins and D. O. Mills are the heaviest stockholders, knocked it out. The officers of the new concern deny that Russell Harrison has any interest in their company, but Mills and Elkins are very near to the State Department, and will have influence over any Government action in regard to the Behring Sea controversy.

FUNERAL OF A PRIEST.

Imposing Services at the Burial of the Head of the Passionist Order.

JERSEY CITY, Dec. 28.—The funeral services of the Rev. Father Benedict Murnane, Provincial of the Passionist Order of America, who died at Dunkirk, N. Y., last Wednesday, were held to-day at the Passionist Monastery, West Hoboken. A solemn pontifical high mass of requiem was celebrated at 10:30 o'clock, Bishop Wigger celebrated the mass. Father Kean, of New York, was arch priest.

At 3 o'clock the full Roman ritual was celebrated, after which a procession of priests was formed and the body carried to the catacombs, where it was placed in a vault of masonry. Father Murnane was the first of his order who died while holding the office of Provincial, an honor which he held for the last three years. The Very Rev. Father Thomas O'Connor has been named as his successor.

A National Bank Fails.

HASTINGS, NEB., Dec. 28.—The City National Bank has been forced to the wall and the authorities at Washington have been notified to send on a receiver. No statement of assets and liabilities has been made.

DEATH OF DAUPHIN.

The Responsible Chief of the